

Message Text

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ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 /002 W
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R 182100Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5095

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS MONTREAL 1126

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, CA

SUBJ: CUBAN PAROLE PROGRAM

REF: MADRID 2575 AND 4501; STATE 151699

1. PRE-PROCESSING CUBAN APPLICANTS THIS POST DATES BACK TO 1967 AND CONSISTS OF A PARAKEET CHECK ONLY. RELATIVES OF APPLICANTS IN U.S. OR CANADA ARE THEN ADVISED THAT PRELIMINARY PROCESSING HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND APPLICANTS MAY MAKE APPLICATION FOR NONIMMIGRANT VISAS ON ARRIVAL IN CANADA. POST COMMUNICATES WITH RELATIVES ONLY. THEY IN TURN COMMUNICATE WITH APPLICANTS WHO ARE IN CUBA. WHEN APPLICANTS ARRIVE IN CANADA THEY ARE INTERVIEWED LIKE ALL OTHER APPLICANTS AND IF FOUND FULLY QUALIFIED ARE ISSUED VISAS. NO ADVANCE ASSURANCE IS GIVEN RE ISSUANCE. CUBANS DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS TO VISIT CANADA AS TOURISTS. UNTIL THIS YEAR THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS HAS BEEN SMALL - BELOW 25 PER ANNUM. DUE TO ENTERPRISING EFFORTS OF MICHAEL FORWARDING COMPANY - A MONTREAL-BASED COMPANY WHICH HAS BEEN PROMOTING THE IDEA OF VISITS BY CUBANS AND ASSISTING APPLICANTS WITH TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS - THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST NOVEMBER ARE APPROXIMATELY 1,000.

2. ONLY 40 OF LATTER WERE PRE-PROCESSED BEFORE DEPARTMENT DISCONTINUED IN JANUARY. DEPARTMENT HAS ONLY RECENTLY AGREED TO RESUME ADVANCE PROCESSING OF THE REMAINDER. 15 CUBANS HAVE ARRIVED AND BEEN ISSUED VISAS THIS YEAR. OF THESE 15 ABOUT HALF WERE PRE-CLEARED. THE REMAINDER REQUIRED EXPEDITIOUS PARAKEET

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CHECKS AFTER ARRIVAL. ALL HAD PENDING APPLICATIONS AT THE

CONSULATE. ALL APPLICANTS WERE RELATIVES OF U.S. CITIZENS OR
RESIDENT ALIENS WHO APPEARED WITH THEM AT THE TIME OF INTERVIEW.
ALL WERE OVER 50 YEARS OF AGE - EITHER PARENTS, SISTERS OR
BROTHERS. ALL WERE ABLE TO SATISFACTORILY ESTABLISH THEIR
TIES IN CUBA AND THEIR RETURN WITHIN 90 DAYS. THE CONSULAR
OFFICER DOES NOT REMEMBER ANY SPECIAL RESTRICTIVE NOTATIONS
IN PASSPORTS. THE PROBLEM OF NON BONAFIDE APPLICANTS HAS NOT
YET PRESENTED ITSELF. CONSULATE GENERAL IS OF THE OPINION THAT
REQUESTS AT THIS POST ARE TOTALLY UNRELATED TO CUBAN PAROLE
PROGRAM.
HARPER

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